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Magnolia Man Arrested for Soliciting Underage Sex

Dover – A 49 year-old Magnolia man was arrested yesterday after he showed up to meet the underage girl he thought he'd been chatting with online, but who had actually been an undercover detective with the Delaware Child Predator Task Force all along, Attorney General Beau Biden announced today. Members of the Task Force, assisted by several Delaware State Troopers, took Robert M. Mock of 459 Cypress Branch Road in Magnolia into custody when he arrived at the Dover park where he had arranged to meet a young girl for sex.

"Predators pursue children online and off, and that's why the Delaware Child Predator Task Force goes after predators whether they target kids on the internet or on the street," said Attorney General Biden.

While conducting surveillance in an online chat room where he posed as an underage girl, a Delaware Child Predator Task Force detective was contacted by a man who said he wanted to play "naked games." Over the course of two weeks, the detective continued chatting with the man, who exposed his genitals repeatedly in live video feeds. Eventually, the man arranged a meeting with the "girl" in a Dover park on the morning of December 21. At the appointed time and place, detectives met Mock and took him into custody.

Separately, another team of detectives executed a search warrant at Mock's Cypress Branch Road residence, which had been identified during the course of the investigation. Five computers and other assorted digital evidence were seized. After an initial review of that evidence and a subsequent interview with Mock, Mock was arrested and charged with attempted sexual solicitation of a child, two counts of sexual solicitation of a child, and two counts of providing obscene material to a child. He was arraigned via videophone at J.P. Court #2 and ordered held at James T. Vaughan Correctional Center on \$85,000 secured bail.

During the investigation, Mock told detectives that he had worked as a paramedic with Kent County government for 16 years. The investigation is ongoing.

A mug shot of Mock is attached.

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